

Incidental Studies of new species of *Oscinis*.

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In my incidental studies of flies which were obtained by personal collecting during past and more recent years, four forms have been found belonging in the genus *Oscinis*, which fail to agree with any known species, and, in consequence, they are named and described herewith as new.

Oscinis nigra n. sp.

Colorado,—Denver; August, 1906. Type: one specimen deposited in the U. S. National Museum.

Wholly black, except fulvous tinge of halteres, and dull reddish eyes. Body and legs shining. Triangular space of front extending from the vertex to a point against the antennal insertions, lower angular edges of front dull opaque. Dorsum of thorax minutely punctured, bearing scattered black bristles, sides fringed; scutellum having two apical bristles of great length.

First and second sections of wings equal in length, third section about two-thirds the length of either one of the preceding, and fourth section one-half the length. Third and fourth longitudinal veins scarcely divergent. Length, 1.5 mm.

This specimen differs from all previously described forms of *Oscinis* on account of total absence of yellow or fulvous color, other than on the halteres.

Oscinis flavescens n. sp.

Colorado,—Manitou, 6629 ft.; August, 1894. Type: one specimen deposited in the U. S. National Museum.

Prevailing color yellow, with black markings as follows: A small spot on vertex enveloping the ocelli; three broad longitudinal stripes on mesonotum, the medial, except towards the distal end, is twice the width of a lateral one, beginning on the prothorax in advance of them and extending the entire length of mesonotum, while the lateral stripes taper to an end before reaching the posterior margin; metathorax polished black beneath the scutellum; dorsal base of abdomen and a median spot arising from anterior edge of second segment black, basal margin with a pronounced and rounded middle expansion on each succeeding segment also black; two subfuscous spots on pleura posteriorly beneath base of wing, and a strong dash of black on posterior coxal plate.

Eyes black; vertex and front punctured, somewhat shining on triangular area; third antennal joint disciform, arista black; dorsum of thorax clothed with fine grayish pubescence which glistens on the

black stripes, a fringe of black bristles extends along each side; scutellum regularly rounded behind, nearly as long as the width.

First and second costal sections of the wings about equal in length; the third and fourth together equal to one of the preceding; third and fourth longitudinal veins parallel. Length, 1.75 mm.

According to Dr. C. F. Adams' table of *Oscinis*, this specimen runs to *nuda* Adams, but it appears as a form too extreme to be regarded even as a variety on account of the following differences: no sharp definition of vertical triangle; vittæ of thorax black instead of brown, and three in number instead of four; no additional line above base of wing unless extremely obscure; black spot lacking above middle coxæ, but two faint or obscure maculations on pleura; scutellum lacking apical pair of bristles, wholly bare, (may possibly be denuded, however); fore margins instead of hind margins of abdominal segments black; tips of tarsi not black; third section of costa more than one-half as long as second section.

***Oscinis frontalis* n. sp.**

Texas.—Plano, Collin county; one female specimen collected in May at dusk in oat field, and one male in November, 1907. Types deposited in the U. S. National Museum.

Generally yellow; front dull, thorax with sericeous pubescence, abdomen somewhat shining. Vertical triangle impressed, not quite reaching to the antennæ, a black dot enclosing the ocelli, and a second dot beneath the ocellar spot in the frontal triangle of the male; hair of front black and stubby, suggestive of minute bristles; arista black. Eyes black with slight pale pubescence.

Dorsal vittæ four in number, brownish black on the female, black on the male, the middle pair but slightly parted and shorter than the lateral ones, all failing to reach the posterior margin of the mesonotum; an additional short narrow stripe above the base of the wing. Lateral suture of pleura strongly lined with black, and a short black dash runs above each posterior coxa. Scutellum evenly rounded, bearing a few black bristles, the apical pair stout. Similar black bristles fringe each side of the mesonotum, and a pair arises near the posterior margin of the dorsum, each bristle standing at the distal end of a lateral stripe.

Metanotum shining black; abdominal segments infuscated at base, the female being more suffused with a dark cast especially overspreading the middle; anterior edges of second segment with a distinct small black dot; venter immaculate; protruded tip of male genitalia and of ovipositor of female black; claws black.

Wings clear hyaline, second costal section twice the length of third section, third and fourth longitudinal veins parallel. Length, 1.5 mm.

Although running to *O. ovalis* Adams, these specimens differ particularly by reason of the double length of the second compared with the third costal sections of the wings, and by the rather unusual appearance of an almost bristly front.

***Oscinis dissidens* n. sp.**

Texas,—Plano, Collin county; June, 1907, one specimen taken in an experiment cage in oat field. Type deposited in the U. S. National Museum.

Mostly shining black; face below the frontal triangle, together with the oral region and mouthparts, excepting the palpi, venter of abdomen largely and dorsal base obscurely, knees of anterior and middle legs slightly, tibiæ of middle legs obscurely, all trochanters and the tarsi except at tip, and halteres, yellowish. Frontal triangle extending across the vertex, polished, reaching two-thirds of the distance to the antennæ, adjoining outer edges of front dull, front projecting over the antennal insertions. Antennæ dull opaque, third joint inwardly sericeous, arista pale and faintly pubescent. Mesonotum with faint pale pubescence, two fine sulci running forward from posterior margin, scutellum with a pair of small terminal bristles.

Wings clear, first and second costal sections equal in length, third and fourth longitudinal veins parallel. Length scarcely more than 1 mm.

Runs to, and agrees in many respects with *O. obscura* according to Mr. Coquillett's description, but the following distinguishing features are noted: greater part of the front yellow, tibiæ of fore legs black instead of yellow, and the second longitudinal vein joins the costa at more than half the distance instead of midway between the apices of the first and third longitudinal veins.

Notes on the Psychodidae.

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Since the completion of my monograph of the North American Psychodidæ, which appeared in the Transactions of the American Entomological Society, Vol. XXXIII, I have been carefully watching for any new species and life histories which may turn up in this region.

The extreme minuteness and inconspicuousness of the adults, as well as the immature stages of these flies, makes their discovery in nature possible only by very close and persistent ob-